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pplicant(s): Cheng, et al	RANSMISSION BY FAC	SIMILE (37 CFR 1.8)	Docket No. FIS920040211US1
Application No. 10/711,145	Filing Date August 27, 2004	Examiner Phillip Green	Group Art Unit 2823
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Appl. No. 10/711,145 Amdt. Dated 03/22/2006

Reply to Office action of December 28, 2005

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Confirmation No. 5144

In re

: Application of Chen, et al.

For

: MAINTAINING UNIFORM CMP HARD MASK THICKNESS

Serial No. : 10/711,145

Filed

: August 27, 2004

Group Art Unit : 2823

Examiner

: Phillip Green

Our Docket No.: FIS920040211US1

Customer No. : 24036

March 22, 2006

By Fax 571-273-8300

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sit:

This is in response to the Office Action dated December 28, 2005 having a shortened statutory period of response set to expire on March 28, 2006.

Please amend the referenced application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.